(c) and (d) Under the Integrated Policy on oilseeds, market intervention operations (MIO) were undertaken and NDDB was appointed as the market intervention agency in April, 1989 for a period of five years. There is no proposal to discontinue the same ahead of the stipulated period. However, the Government is examining ways and means to minimise the losses under MIO.

Development of Pisciculture

1365. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for development of pisciculture in the country at the national level:

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether some study has been conducted to evaluate the total production and exports potential of fresh water fish from India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how much resource allocation has been earmarked for the purpose and what would be the Statewise allocation therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A scheme for development of pisciculture through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) has been in operation in all the States. 375 FFDAs have been sanctioned to provide financial technical and extension support to fish farmers for pisciculture development.

(c) and (d): Annual fish production is estimated through State Governments on regular basis. Exports potential of fresh-water fish other than Shell fish (prawn) is yet to be established.

(e) Central assistance of Rs. 60 crore is proposed to be provided to States for pisciculture development during the Eighth Plan period Funds re released to Sttes on the basis of progress achieved.

Prodacion of Oilseeds and Cotton

1366. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the current year the production targets for oilseeds and cotton have not been achieved despite all support of the Government;

(b) whether prices of edible oils are soaring up day by day;

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete step to reduce the prices of edible oil available to general consumers; and

(d) if so, the details theerof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The production targets and likely achievement of oilseeds and cotton during the current year are as follows:—

Crop	Targets	Likely achievement
Oilseeds (lakh tons) .	190	200
Cotton (lakh bales)	120	117

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.